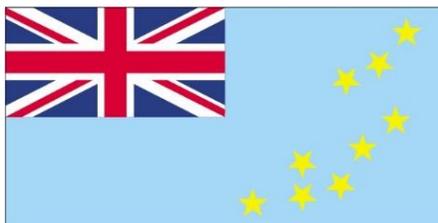




TUVALU



INTRODUCTION

In 1974, ethnic differences within the British colony of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands caused the Polynesians of the Ellice Islands to vote for separation from the Micronesians of the Gilbert Islands. The following year, the Ellice Islands became the separate British colony of Tuvalu. Independence was granted in 1978.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II
represented by Acting Governor General
Teniku TALESI Honolulu

Head of Government

Prime Minister Kausea NATANO

Government Type

parliamentary democracy under a
constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth
realm

Capital

Funafuti

Legislature

unicameral House of Assembly or Fale I Fono
(16 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 26 sq km
Land: 26 sq km
Water: 0 sq km

Climate

tropical; moderated by easterly trade winds
(March to November); westerly gales and
heavy rain (November to March)

Natural Resources

fish, coconut (copra)

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

upper middle-income but very fragile Pacific island economy;
currency pegged to Australian dollar; public revenues from
international aid, fishing licenses, and national trust fund; pursuing
Te Kakeega sustainable development; significant remittances

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$50 million (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$4,400 (2020 est.)

Industries - fishing

Agricultural products - coconuts, vegetables, tropical fruit,

bananas, roots/tubers nes, pork, poultry, eggs, pig fat, pig offals

Exports \$600,000 (2010 est.)

fish, ships, coins, metal-clad products, electrical power
accessories (2019)

partners: Thailand 50%, Indonesia 40% (2019)

Imports \$20.69 billion (2017 est.)

refined petroleum, fishing ships, tug boats, other ships, iron
structures (2019)

partners: China 32%, Japan 29%, Fiji 23%, NZ 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

11,450 (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.85% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Tuvaluan 86.8%,
Tuvaluan/I-Kiribati
5.6%, Tuvaluan/other 6.7%, other 0.9% (2012 est.)

Language

Tuvaluan (official), English (official), Samoan, Kiribati (on the
island of Nui)

Religion

Protestant 92.4%, Baha'i 2%, Jehovah's Witness 1.3%, Church of
Jesus Christ 1%, other 3.1%, none 0.2% (2012 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 64.8% of total population (2021)
rate of urbanization: 2.08% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

